

ABSTRACT

A method and system for verifying collision detection and resolution in a home network that comprises a plurality of stations is disclosed. Each station in the network includes a host media access controller program and a media access controller, where each station may transmit a frame when a transmission channel is inactive. When a collision is detected, the station ceases transmission of the frame, and chooses a backoff level to resolve the conflict. The station increments a backoff level counter in response to receiving backoff signal from another station on the network, and decrements the backoff counter in response to successfully transmitting the frame. The backoff level counter is maintained such that it may be accessed through the host media access controller for monitoring collision resolution, thereby eliminating the need to monitor signals over the network.